



**Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior
School and Cradoc C.P. School**

Draft Community Impact Assessment

January 2021

Draft Community Impact Assessment

This initial community impact assessment has been developed with input from the three affected schools. If Cabinet approve commencing the statutory process, the community impact assessment will be updated throughout the process to reflect any additional information received.

4.1 Mount Street Infants School

i) Information on the proportion of pupils from the catchment area that attend the school

The closest provider for pupils attending the Mount Street Infants School in January 2020 was as follows:

School	% of Pupils
Cradoc C.P. School	1.7%
Llanfaes C.P. School	8.7%
Llangors C. in W. School	0.9%
Mount Street Infants School	45.2%
Priory C. in W. School	40.0%
Ysgol y Mynydd Du	3.5%

This suggests that 45.2% of pupils attending the school were attending their closest primary school, whilst 54.8% of pupils attending the school live closer to other primary schools. Whilst a small proportion of pupils attending the school live closer to schools located outside the town, it is clear that the majority of pupils that attend the school live in the town of Brecon or the immediate surrounding area – schools in Brecon are the closest schools for 93.9% of pupils.

ii) After-school clubs and extra-curricular activities provided by the school

The school provides the following after-school clubs and extra-curricular activities:

- Breakfast Club
- After School Club
- Year 2 Sports Club

iii) Any other facilities or services the school accommodates or services the school provides

The school accommodates or provides the following other facilities or services:

- External clubs ran by external organisations e.g. Kiddy Cook, Powys Dance
- 3+ Early Years setting providing 10 hour education and Childcare Offer for Wales is based on the site within the school building and separate playground
- Specialist support class for the Brecon cluster – provision for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children with significant additional learning needs
- Parent and Toddler group meets at the school one morning a week, utilising the school hall and outdoor play areas
- Millennium Woodland – Joint Project between the school, the National Trust, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, PTA and pupils where pupils take part in outdoor woodland session every week
- Work experience for learners at NPTC Brecon to gain experience and develop skills towards completing Childcare and Sport qualifications

iv) Other use by the community of the school building

- The school building is used as the venue for staff training for the Millennium Woodland Joint Project for the entire Brecon cluster.
- Occasional use of the woodland by the Brecknock Wildlife Trust for holiday programmes

v) Other links between the school and the community

- Visits to the local community – pupils walk to a wide range of venues in Brecon e.g. library, fire station, shops. Year 2 pupils participate in Dementia Matters scheme at Kensington Church weekly
- Swimming – pupils walk to Brecon Leisure Centre each week for half hour swimming session
- School grounds provide the local community with a valuable green space in the centre of a busy town
- Fundraising events which involve the local community e.g. McMillan Coffee Mornings

vi) If accommodation, facilities or services are provided by a school, where would they be provided in the event of closure?

Should the proposal be implemented, a new primary school would initially be established on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School, therefore the current Mount Street Infants School site would continue to be available.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. It is likely that the new building would have enhanced facilities compared with the current buildings, including community facilities, which could be utilised for the same activities and services currently provided, therefore it is not anticipated that moving to the new site would have a negative impact.

vii) Distance and travelling time involved in attending an alternative school of the same language category

Should the proposal be implemented, a new primary school would initially be established on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School, therefore pupils would be able to continue to access English-medium provision at the same locations. There would be no impact on distance and travelling time.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. This site is located approximately 0.6 miles from the current Mount Street Infants site. The additional distance is minimal, therefore it is not anticipated that there would be a significant impact on distance and travelling time for pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School.

Whilst the distance from the current Mount Street Infants School building to the proposed location of the new school is relatively small, it is acknowledged that the proposed new location is up a hill, which could be less convenient for parents and pupils, and which could lead to an increase in parents choosing to drive their children to school. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new school was previously a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and the town centre.

viii) How parents' and pupils' engagement with the alternative school and any facilities it may offer could be supported

Should the Council proceed with the statutory process and eventually implementation of the preferred option, support would be provided to pupils and their parents as part of the transition process, to ensure full engagement with their new schools. As the preferred option would result in the establishment of one new school, initially operating over three sites, there would be opportunities for all parents and pupils involved with the three existing schools to be fully involved with the establishment of the new school, which would ensure full engagement by the time the school were to move to the planned new building.

ix) Any wider implications e.g. impact on public transport provision, wider community safety issues

It is not anticipated that implementation of the proposal to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School would impact on public transport provision or community safety.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. As this site is a former school site, appropriate safe walking routes established for Brecon High School would remain. The site is also located near to Ysgol y Bannau which would have similar safe walking routes established.

Whilst the distance from the current Mount Street Infants School building to the proposed location of the new school is relatively small, it is acknowledged that the proposed new location is up a hill, which could be less convenient for parents and pupils, and which could lead to an increase in parents choosing to drive their children to school. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new school was previously a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and the town centre.

4.2 Mount Street Junior School

i) Information on the proportion of pupils from the catchment area that attend the school

The closest provider for pupils attending the Mount Street Junior School in January 2020 was as follows:

School	% of Pupils
Cradoc C.P. School	2.0%
Llanfaes C.P. School	14.5%
Llangors C. in W. School	1.3%
Llangynidr C.P. School	3.3%
Mount Street Junior School	44.7%
Priory C. in W. School	30.9%
Sennybridge C.P. School	2.0%
Ysgol y Mynydd Du	1.3%

This suggests that 44.7% of pupils attending the school were attending their closest primary school, whilst 55.3% of pupils attending the school live closer to other primary schools. Whilst a small proportion of pupils attending the school live closer to schools located outside the town, it is clear that the majority of pupils that attend the school live in the town of Brecon or the immediate surrounding area – schools in Brecon are the closest schools for 90.1% of pupils.

ii) After-school clubs and extra-curricular activities provided by the school

The school provides the following after-school clubs and extra-curricular activities:

- Various sporting clubs e.g. Rugby, Football, Cricket
- Various academic and creative clubs e.g. French, Art, Music, Lego, Board games
- Music tuition via peripatetic music teachers – piano, violin, brass, flute, clarinet, guitar, singing. Run in conjunction with Mount Street Infants School

iii) Any other facilities or services the school accommodates or services the school provides

The school accommodates or provides the following other facilities or services:

- After School Club
- Opportunities for music tuition provided on site
- Local Farm produce business
- Top 100 books library project

iv) Other use by the community of the school building

The school building is used by the community to provide the following activities:

- Brownies
- Brecon Little Theatre

v) Other links between the school and the community

- Links with the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
- Brecon Library
- Parental workshops
- School choir perform at Christingle, Remembrance at Plough Chapel, Brecon at Christmas
- Morrisons donations for EFSM pupils
- Brecon Rotary Club
- Community events, including the following:
 - Sports Day
 - Harvest festival
 - St David's Day
 - Eisteddfodau
 - Christmas concerts
 - Eco-events, including building a green house, clearing the wildlife pond, donation of items for safe risk play etc. These events are supported by families and wider members of the community including Brecon Beacons National Park
- Links with local police in managing traffic issues – visits from PCOs
- Curriculum links with the local community:
 - Pupils visit the local community in order to develop knowledge of all six learning areas:
 - Language Literacy Communication – study of languages around the town, especially Welsh. Pupils have developed a map of languages based on the diversity of the town of Brecon
 - Maths / Numeracy – Data handling tasks based on traffic, litter, street surveys

- Humanities – Studies of local human and physical geography, WW2 Museum, Brecon as a military town
 - Science / Technology – Habitats and plants of the local area, buildings and shapes
 - Health and Well-being – Walks around the town, cross country
 - Expressive Arts – Sketching of local features
- National Dementia Day
 - ALN Open Door
 - Parent Consultations
 - Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
 - ALN Statementing Panel
 - Parental Numeracy / Literacy Workshop
 - Special Interest Day
 - Dashain
 - EWO visits
 - Siartr Iaithe
 - Broneirion – Residential trip
 - Mental Health Workshops
 - Christmas Fayre
 - Nepali Art Project

vi) If accommodation, facilities or services are provided by a school, where would they be provided in the event of closure?

Should the proposal be implemented, a new primary school would initially be established on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School, therefore the current Mount Street Infants School site would continue to be available.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. It is likely that the new building would have enhanced facilities compared with the current buildings, including community facilities, which could be utilised for the same activities and services currently provided, therefore it is not anticipated that moving to the new site would have a negative impact.

vii) Distance and travelling time involved in attending an alternative school of the same language category

Should the proposal be implemented, a new primary school would initially be established on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School, therefore pupils would be able to continue to access English-medium provision at

the same locations. There would be no impact on distance and travelling time.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. This site is located approximately 0.7 miles from the current Mount Street Juniors site. The additional distance is minimal, therefore it is not anticipated that there would be a significant impact on distance and travelling time for pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School.

Whilst the distance from the current Mount Street Juniors School building to the proposed location of the new school is relatively small, it is acknowledged that the proposed new location is up a hill, which could be less convenient for parents and pupils, and which could lead to an increase in parents choosing to drive their children to school. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new school was previously a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and the town centre.

viii) How parents' and pupils' engagement with the alternative school and any facilities it may offer could be supported

Should the Council proceed with the statutory process and eventually implementation of the preferred option, support would be provided to pupils and their parents as part of the transition process, to ensure full engagement with their new schools. As the preferred option would result in the establishment of one new school, initially operating over three sites, there would be opportunities for all parents and pupils involved with the three existing schools to be fully involved with the establishment of the new school, which would ensure full engagement by the time the school were to move to the planned new building.

ix) Any wider implications e.g. impact on public transport provision, wider community safety issues

Transport issues are currently a concern at the school – the main driveway up to the school is very narrow which can cause congestion. However, as the intention is to initially establish a new school on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School, it is not anticipated that there would be impact on public transport provision or community safety during this phase.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3

9SR. This would address the issues relating to transport and access at the current site of Mount Street Junior School. As the proposed site of the new school is a former school site, appropriate safe walking routes established for Brecon High School would remain. The site is also located near to Ysgol y Bannau which would have similar safe walking routes established.

Whilst the distance from the current Mount Street Infants School building to the proposed location of the new school is relatively small, it is acknowledged that the proposed new location is up a hill, which could be less convenient for parents and pupils, and which could lead to an increase in parents choosing to drive their children to school. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new school was previously a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and the town centre.

4.3 Cradoc C.P. School

i) Information on the proportion of pupils from the catchment area that attend the school

The closest provider for pupils attending Cradoc C.P. School in January 2020 was as follows:

School	% of Pupils
Builth C.P. School	3.0%
Cradoc C.P. School	53.5%
Llanfaes C.P. School	7.1%
Mount Street Infants School	3.0%
Mount Street Junior School	7.1%
Priory C. in W. School	17.2%
Sennybridge C.P. School	7.1%
Ysgol Bro Tawe	2.0%

This suggests that 53.5% of pupils attending the school were attending their closest primary school, whilst 46.5% of pupils attending the school

live closer to other primary schools. 34.4% of pupils attending Cradoc C.P. School live closer to schools located in the town of Brecon.

ii) After-school clubs and extra-curricular activities provided by the school

The school provides the following after-school clubs and extra-curricular activities including the following:

- Various sports clubs e.g. Football, Cricket, Rugby, Tennis, Netball, Athletics
- Various academic clubs e.g. Maths Club, Homework Club
- Watch (nature), ECO, Sewing, Gardening, Cinema, Lego Club
- Choir and Orchestra
- Opportunities for music tuition via peripatetic music teachers including piano, violin, brass, flute, clarinet, singing

Whilst some of these clubs are run by staff and governors, a large number are run by community volunteers / parents.

iii) Any other facilities or services the school accommodates or services the school provides

The school accommodates or provides the following other facilities or services:

- Cool Kids @ Cradoc – breakfast club, after school and holiday club
- 3@Cradoc Early Years private provider utilises the school premises and provides Early Years provision including the Childcare Offer for Wales
- Combined these two entities provide wrap around care from 7.45am to 6pm daily for children aged 3-13
- Rural play pod – provided in 2018 following a grant application – provides children with an opportunity to use the equipment outside school hours
- Ongoing permanent book exchange for children and adults
- Community ‘swap shop’ for plants, produce, eggs at various times throughout the year
- Opportunities for music tuition provided on site
- Work with the three community councils from which the majority of pupils come e.g. installation of a sensory and butterfly garden by the Yscir Community Council
- Provides storage and parking facilities for the local play network

iv) Other use by the community of the school building

The school building is used by the community to provide the following activities:

- Book Exchange
- Community Swap Shop
- Music Tuition
- The school premises a 'rural play pod', one of only 3 across Powys, providing children with free, unsupervised play area for the community
- Regular work with the three community councils located in the area e.g. sensory and butterfly garden, Woodland Trust Charter
- The school provides storage and parking facilities for the local play network
- Periodically provide a venue for competitions, events and quizzes for the Brecon cluster and local schools

The school is the only remaining public building in the Yscir ward – meeting hall and facilities are made available to local organisations when possible, e.g.:

- Shake, Rattle & Roll music group
- Parent and toddler group
- Committee meetings / AGM of the local Play Network
- Periodic meetings of the local Church, including some Dan yr Epynt services
- Periodic community celebratory parties/events, including but not limited to:
 - Royal Wedding (and other) street parties
 - YFC Carol Singing (use of car park, toilet facilities etc)
 - Community Summer Sports competition
 - Honddu Rural Community Association Easter Egg hunts
 - Community Summer Fete, Eisteddfodau, Halloween party/disco
 - Local anniversary events eg 50@ celebration – outdoor event attended by over 300
 - Friends of Cradoc community events
 - Use by Hay, Brecon and Talgarth Sanctuary for Refugees to hold Refugee Away Day
- Periodic community training courses, including:
 - First aid course (open to full community)
 - Internet safety course (open to full community)
 - Financial awareness course (open to full community)
 - Substance misuse course (open to full community)
- Election counting station
- Training events / meetings held by outside organisations e.g.
 - PCC Early Years training

- ERW NQT support meetings
- NHS use e.g. South Powys Mental Health In-reach courses

v) Other links between the school and the community

- High levels of support from parents, grandparents and the wider community
- The school holds regular events which the community attend, which include the following:
 - Sports Day
 - Community bingo
 - Family/community picnics
 - Harvest festival – including where older members of the community were invited to school for celebration and tea
 - St David’s Day events and Eisteddfodau – wider community are invited
 - Whole school Christmas concerts
 - Eco-events, including maintenance and improvement of the school grounds, wildlife pond, erection of bird and bat boxes, placing of hedgehog homes, building bug hotels etc
- Work with the community to ensure continued use and maintenance of non-school facilities, including:
 - Local history/geography/science visits within walking distance to The Crug, The Gaer, Roman Fort, Old Railway line and Cradoc Holt
 - Visits to Aberyscir church for Easter services and educational events eg FP baptism service
 - Use of Golf club for fundraising events
 - Visits to garden of local wildlife expert to gain expert hands on knowledge and expertise – this is in walking distance of the school
 - Visits to local rural businesses, to enhance learning about rural crafts and rural economy, supporting the Powys Local Development Strategy
 - People with expertise related to learning come to school to speak to children on a range of subjects e.g. mountain rescue, health matters, Sikhism, dog handlers, rural crafts
 - Sessions in the Driving range at the golf club which is in walking distance
 - Building on the rural and agricultural culture of the school, the school participates in the NFU Farmvention programme
- Active ‘Friends of Cradoc School’ who run events approximately half termly or more frequently
- School and community work together to participate in ‘Cradoc in Bloom’

- The school has worked with the Rural Dean and other partners to access support for children with issues around mental health in farming families
- The school's community events eg Harvest Festivals, Social evening, provide increasing opportunities for farmers and communities to connect and enable the strengthening of social networks
- Listening to the children playing helps the well-being of those locals who may be limited in their contact with the outside world
- Support other local organisations and work with them to develop understanding for the children – Cradoc School became the first primary school in Wales to become a School of Sanctuary.
- School Choir visits to local hospitals and care homes
- Involvement in local shows e.g. Lower Chapel
- Link with the Cathedral choir – participation in the Cathedral Carol Concert
- Involvement with the local church
- Links with Police surrounding speed awareness and traffic calming
- School car park used by local residents

vi) If accommodation, facilities or services are provided by a school, where would they be provided in the event of closure?

Should the proposal be implemented, a new primary school would initially be established on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School, therefore the current Cradoc C.P. School site would continue to be available to the community.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. It is likely that the new building would have enhanced facilities compared with the current buildings, including community facilities. However, it is acknowledged that a move to a new school site in Brecon would mean that there would no longer be a school located in Cradoc, therefore potentially the community facilities provided by the school may no longer be available. It is currently unclear where the facilities and services currently provided by the school could be provided should there be no school located in Cradoc.

vii) Distance and travelling time involved in attending an alternative school of the same language category

Should the proposal be implemented, a new primary school would initially be established on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School, therefore

pupils would be able to continue to access English-medium provision at the same locations. There would be no impact on distance and travelling time during this phase.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. This site is located approximately 3 miles from the current Cradoc C.P. School site.

Following a move to the new building, there would be an impact on distance and travelling time for pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School for whom Cradoc is currently the closest school. An analysis of pupils attending Cradoc C.P. School in January 2020 suggests that the furthest distance to the new school for pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school would be 8.8 miles.

A significant proportion of pupils that currently attend Cradoc C.P. School live closer to alternative schools in Brecon. For these pupils, it is likely that there would be a reduction in distance / travel time.

Following the move to a new building in Brecon, home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the home to school transport which is in operation at that time. Whilst free transport would be provided to eligible pupils, it is acknowledged that there could be an impact on some pupils' ability to access after school activities, and could impact on the ability of parents to take part in school events, meetings etc.

viii) How parents' and pupils' engagement with the alternative school and any facilities it may offer could be supported

Should the Council proceed with the statutory process and eventually implementation of the preferred option, support would be provided to pupils and their parents as part of the transition process, to ensure full engagement with their new schools. As the preferred option would result in the establishment of one new school, initially operating over three sites, there would be opportunities for all parents and pupils involved with the three existing schools to be fully involved with the establishment of the new school, which would ensure full engagement by the time the school were to move to the planned new building.

ix) Any wider implications e.g. impact on public transport provision, wider community safety issues

- There is no public transport to Cradoc

- Because of the school's location, there is currently a speed restriction through the village of Cradoc and gritting of rural roads up to the school. This ensures the safety of all residents.
- Due to the rural nature of the school, there are no safe play facilities for local children other than the school
- The roads around Cradoc are extremely dangerous with a lot of large agricultural and delivery traffic on narrow roads. Local children learn to ride their bikes on the school playground
- The school car park is used by local residents due to the lack of safe parking facilities in the village – if the car park was not available on road parking narrows the main road through the village which would cause difficulties for agricultural and delivery traffic and the Emergency services

x) Additional considerations for rural schools

The School Organisation Code includes a number of additional considerations that are likely to be relevant when carrying out a community impact assessment for a rural school closure. As Cradoc C.P. School is identified as a rural school, these factors are considered below:

- **Whether closure would encourage families with school-age children to leave the community or discourage young families from moving to the community**

Information received from the school suggests that a wide range of services and activities are provided by the school, including some facilities which could be attractive to families, such as wraparound childcare provision which is run by the school. Should there be no school in Cradoc, it is likely that there would be an impact on the other associated facilities available in the village, which could have an impact on families with school-age children, and which could encourage these families to leave the community or discourage young families from moving to the community.

- **What impact closure might have on other services provided locally, for instance if the school is the only remaining public building in a community**

Information received from the school suggests that a wide range of services are provided in the school, and that this is the only remaining public building in the area. It is currently unclear where these services would be provided should there be no school in Cradoc. Should the Council proceed with the proposal, it would endeavour to work with the community in Cradoc to identify a suitable alternative.

- **Whether, or not, the school is a real hub of community life, used for other purpose – such as public meetings, local events, fetes surgeries, and other get togethers – which would either cease or be diminished by being required to move elsewhere**

Information received from the school suggests that a wide range of events take place in the community events and activities take place in the school, as indicated in sections (iii), (iv) and (v) above. It is currently unclear where these events and activities could take place should there be no school in Cradoc, and therefore it is unclear whether they would be able to continue, or whether they would cease or be diminished. Should the Council proceed with the proposal, it would endeavour to work with the community in Cradoc to identify a suitable alternative.

- **Whether or not the loss of the school, and potentially families, will have a detrimental effect on the wider economy of the community**

It is possible that the loss of the school, and the loss of families from Cradoc could have some impact on local business in Cradoc and the surrounding area should there be less people in the area. Implementation of the proposal would eventually lead to a reduction in employment opportunities in the village of Cradoc, as the intention is that the new school would move to a new building in Brecon. However, as the proposal is to merge the three existing schools in order to establish one new school, opportunities would be provided to staff currently employed at Cradoc C.P. School to secure employment in the new school.

- **How parents' and pupils' engagement with the alternative school and any facilities it may offer could be supported (e.g. how pupils, (particularly any less advantaged pupils) will be helped to participate in after school activities)**

As indicated in section (viii) above, should the Council proceed with the statutory process and eventually implementation of the preferred option, support would be provided to pupils and their parents as part of the transition process, to ensure full engagement with their new schools. As the preferred option would result in the establishment of one new school, initially operating over three sites, there would be opportunities for all parents and pupils involved with the three existing schools to be fully involved with the establishment of the new school, which would ensure full engagement by the time the school were to move to the planned new building.

Following a move to a new building in Brecon, it is acknowledged that there would be an impact on pupils' ability to participate in after school activities. The new school would be encouraged to ensure that a wide range of activities

are available to pupils within the school day to ensure that they are able to take part in activities.

- **The overall effect of closure on the local community (including the loss of school based facilities which are used by the local community)**

The information received from the school indicates that there is currently extensive community use of the Cradoc building, and extensive links between the school and the local community. It is therefore likely that the proposal to remove school provision from the village of Cradoc would have a significant effect on the local community.

Should the Council proceed with the proposal, it is currently unclear where the facilities and services currently provided by the school could be provided. However, the Council would endeavour to work with the community in Cradoc to identify a suitable alternative.

4.4 Conclusion

It is clear that a wide range of extra curricular activities are available to pupils at the three affected schools. Should the proposal be implemented, a new school would initially be established on the existing sites of the three schools. It is expected that a similar range of activities would be provided to pupils on the existing sites. It is also possible that an increased range of activities and opportunities could be offered to pupils, through the ability to share staff expertise and the ability to offer joint activities to a larger group of pupils. During the first phase of implementation, it is anticipated that the proposal's impact on the community would be minimal.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school would move to one new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School in Brecon, co-located with the PRU and a new community swimming pool. It is anticipated that the new building would have a range of community facilities, which would ensure that many of the activities which currently take place in the schools could continue, as well as providing the opportunity to offer new activities.

It is acknowledged, however that the move to one new building in Brecon would mean that there would be no school provision in the village of Cradoc. The information provided in section 4.3 above indicates that there is currently extensive community use of the Cradoc building, and extensive links between the school and the local community. It is currently unclear where the facilities and services currently provided by the school could be provided should there be no school in Cradoc. However, should the Council proceed with the proposal, it would endeavour to work with the community in Cradoc to identify a suitable alternative.

It is also acknowledged that implementation of the proposal would result in additional travel to school for pupils for whom Cradoc is currently their closest school. Whilst

free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the home to school transport policy which is in operation at that time, it is acknowledged that there could be an impact on some pupils' ability to access after school activities, and there could be an impact on the ability of parents to take part in school events, meetings etc.

The move to one new building would also have some impact on pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, as the new school building would be located approximately 0.6/0.7 miles from the current school buildings, and would be located up a hill, which could mean that parents would be more likely to drive their children to school rather than walk / cycle. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new school was previously a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and the town centre.